

NCERT QUESTIONS WITH SOLUTIONS

Thinking About the Poem

1. How old do you think Amanda is? How do you know this?
Ans. Amanda should be 13, 14 years old. We know this by her mother's mentioning of Amanda's 'acne' in the line 'Remember your acne. Amanda!' Usually boys or girls at this age have acne on their faces.
2. Who do you think is speaking to her?
Ans. I think her mother is speaking to her. Generally, mothers ask daughters not to do this or that. The following lines give this indication – 'Anyone would think that I nagged at you Amanda!'
3. Why are Stanzas 2, 4 and 6 given in parenthesis?
Ans. Stanzas 2, 4 and 6 are given in parenthesis because they are not spoken openly. These reflect the inner thoughts of the girl and not responses to the mother's instructions.
4. Who is the speaker in Stanzas 2, 4 and 6? Do you think this speaker is listening to the speaker in Stanzas 1, 3, 5 and 7?
Ans. The speaker in Stanzas 2, 4, and 6 is the little girl. She isn't attentively listening to the speaker of the Stanzas 1, 3, 5 and 7?
5. What could Amanda do if she were a mermaid?
Ans. If Amanda were a mermaid, she could drift blissfully in the emerald sea. She would be the sole inhabitant of the sea. Nobody would be there to curtail her freedom and to nag at her.
6. Is Amanda an orphan? Why does she say so?
Ans. No, Amanda is not an orphan. She says so because she thinks that an orphan has the liberty to roam about the street barefooted. A barefooted orphan doesn't need shoes and their cleanliness.
7. Why does Amanda want to be Rapunzel?
Ans. Amanda wants to be Rapunzel to live a peaceful life in a tower, where no one gives any instruction and she doesn't have to do any work. But she doesn't want to escape with a prince that is why she says 'I'll certainly never let down my bright hair.'
8. What does the girl yearn for? What does this poem tell you about Amanda?
Ans. The girl yearns for being a mermaid drifting blissfully in the emerald sea, an orphan roaming the street barefooted, and a Rapunzel to live peacefully in a tower. This poem tells that she is fed up of being nagged by her mother. She wants to escape from these all.
9. Read the last stanza. Do you think Amanda is sulking and is moody?
Ans. I think Amanda is sulking as well as is moody. She is sulking that's why she doesn't look at her mother when she instructs or nags at her. She is moody that's why she wants to be a mermaid or an orphan or Rapunzel.